



Financing social protection floors
Side event during the 55th Commission on Social Development
United Nations, New York, 13:15 – 14:30, 3 February 2017, Conference Room 11

Concept Note and Draft Agenda

At the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July 2015](#), Member States committed to a new social compact, including exploring funding possibilities.

This compact contains two components: a commitment to deliver social protection systems and measures for all, including floors; and a package of essential public services. While there is some overlap of these two areas, social protection generally refers to cash transfers and social insurance, such as adequate pensions for older persons, and essential public services include the provision of basic social services, such as health care and education. These two components require dedicated funding, and funding for each should not compromise funding for the other.

The primary responsibility for implementing this social compact is with national governments. However, paragraph 12 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, on “delivering social protection and essential public services for all” contains a commitment by Member States to “strong international support” for the policies enumerated in the paragraph and to “explore coherent funding modalities to mobilize additional resources, building on country-led experiences.”

Under the auspices of the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development,¹ the Financing for Development Office of UN/DESA and the International Labour Organization (ILO) organized an expert group meeting to explore coherent funding modalities for the social protection floor component of the social compact. The 30 November 2016 technical meeting discussed country experiences with financing of social protection floors to explore some lessons learned and raise new or innovative ideas for sustainable financing of universal social protection systems, including floors. It also advanced thinking on how to treat social protection floors in the thematic chapter of the 2017 IATF report. As a result of the meeting, a paper is being prepared to inform the 2017 report of the Task Force.

Objectives of side event

The ILO and the Financing for Development Office are organizing the side event during the Commission on Social Development to update all stakeholders on the outcomes of the expert group meeting and the subsequent work of the Task Force in the area of financing social protection floors. Comments and input will be sought from the attendees.

¹ The Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development - comprised of over 50 UN agencies, programmes and offices, and other relevant international institutions – was convened by the Secretary-General to follow up on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as mandated by paragraph 133 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. More information at <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/ffd-follow-up/inter-agency-task-force.html>.

Draft agenda

Chair: Prof. Jose Antonio Ocampo, Columbia University, ILO Goodwill Ambassador for Social Protection

Opening Statement:

H.E. Mr. Marc Pecsteen, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the UN

Panelists:

- Ms. Shari Spiegel, Chief of Branch, Policy Analysis and Development, Financing for Development Office, UN/DESA
- Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Special Representative to the UN and Director of the ILO Office for the United Nations, ILO
- Dr. Barry Herman, The New School and co-director of SocDevJustice project on financing social protection floors

Member state reactions:

- TBC, Brazil
- Head of Delegation CSoc-D, Zambia (Name to be confirmed)

Open Discussion